

What is claimed is;

1. A magnetic transfer holder which sandwiches and holds therein a contact body comprising a discoid master information carrier having a toroidal pattern area bearing transfer information on a front surface and a discoid slave medium receiving transfer of the foregoing transfer information from the master information carrier, via elastic bodies placed on at least either side of the two sides, wherein at least a front surface of the elastic body on the side that faces the foregoing contact body is circular, and wherein:

an outer diameter D1 of the circular front surface of the elastic body is smaller than an outer diameter D2 which is the smaller one of an outer diameter of the master information carrier and an outer diameter of the slave medium.

2. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 1, wherein a difference between the outer diameter D1 and the outer diameter D2 is between 0.2mm and 4mm, inclusive.

3. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 1, wherein the outer diameter D1 is larger than an outer diameter D3 of the pattern area.

4. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 3, wherein a difference between the outer diameter D1 and the outer diameter D3 is 4 mm or less.

5. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 1, wherein at least one of the master information carrier and the slave medium has a center hole, the circular front surface of the elastic body has a center hole, and a diameter d1 of the center hole is larger than a diameter d2 which is the larger one of a diameter of the center hole of the master information carrier and a diameter of the center hole of the slave medium.

6. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 5, wherein a difference between the diameter d1 and the diameter d2 is between 0.2mm and 4mm, inclusive.

7. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 5, wherein the diameter d1 is smaller than an inner diameter d3 of the pattern area.

8. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 1, wherein the thickness of the elastic body is between 0.1 mm and 3 mm.

9. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 1, wherein Young's modulus of the elastic body is from 0.5 MPa to 200 MPa.

10. A magnetic transfer holder which sandwiches and holds therein a contact body comprising a discoid master information carrier having a toroidal pattern area bearing transfer information on a front surface and a discoid slave medium receiving transfer of the foregoing transfer information from the master information carrier,

via elastic bodies placed on at least either side of the two sides, wherein at least a front surface of the elastic body on the side that faces the foregoing contact body is circular, and wherein:

5           at least one of the master information carrier and the slave medium has a center hole, the circular front surface of the elastic body has a center hole, and a diameter d1 of the center hole is larger than a diameter d2 which is the larger one of a diameter of the center  
10 hole of the master information carrier and a diameter of the center hole of the slave medium.

11. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 10, wherein a difference between the diameter d1 and the diameter d2 is between 0.2mm and 4mm, inclusive.

15           12. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 10, wherein the diameter d1 is smaller than an inner diameter d3 of the pattern area.

13. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 12, wherein a difference between the diameter d1 and the  
20 diameter d3 is 4 mm or less.

14. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim 10, wherein the thickness of the elastic body is between 0.1 mm and 3 mm.

15. A magnetic transfer holder as defined in Claim  
25 10, wherein the Young's modulus of the elastic body is from 0.5 MPa to 200 MPa.

16. A magnetic transfer device which uses a magnetic transfer holder which sandwiches and holds therein a contact body comprising a discoid master information carrier having a toroidal pattern area bearing transfer information on a front surface and a discoid slave medium receiving transfer of the foregoing transfer information from the master information carrier, via elastic bodies placed on at least either side of the two sides, wherein at least a front surface of the elastic body on the side that faces the foregoing contact body is circular, and wherein an outer diameter D1 of the circular front surface of the elastic body is smaller than an outer diameter D2 which is the smaller one of an outer diameter of the master information carrier and an outer diameter of the slave medium, wherein:

magnetic transfer is performed in a state in which pressure is applied onto two sides of the contact body via the holder.

17. A magnetic transfer device as defined in Claim 16, wherein a maximum value of pressure applied onto each portion of the pattern area is 2 MPa or less.